Massachusetts Immunization Information System

MIIS

Readiness Checklist for Using the MIIS

Version 1.2
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1. Overview

The Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS) is a web-based system that supports the tracking of vaccine administration within the Commonwealth. The system allows medical providers and public health professionals to enter, query, and update patient immunization records. This document lists minimum technical requirements needed for accessing and using the system.

2. System Requirements

The MIIS utilizes a web-based user interface, which allows the user access from any standards compliant web browser. There are no installations required on the part of the user to access the MIIS. The list below shows all compatible configurations. As long as one item in each numbered section matches your computer and internet set-up, then your system will be compatible with the MIIS:

1. **Computer:** PC or Mac.
2. **Operating System:** Windows 2000, XP, 2003 Vista with a Pentium processor or better; Mac OS X 10.4 or later; Unix/Linux.
    a. **How to check on a PC:** Right-click on "My Computer" icon on your desktop, and Choose "Properties". Name and version of the operating system will be displayed under "System" section.
    b. **How to check on a Mac:** From the Apple menu, select "About This Mac". The version number will appear in the window.
3. **Web Browser:** Internet Explorer 6.0 and greater, Mozilla Firefox 2.0 and greater, Apple Safari 2.0 and greater, Opera 9.0 and greater.
    a. **How to check for Internet Explorer:** When the browser is open, Press ALT+H, and then click "About Internet Explorer".
    b. **How to check for Firefox:** When the browser is open, Press ALT+H, and then click "About Mozilla Firefox".
    c. **How to check for Safari:** When the browser is open, click on "Safari", and then click "About Safari".
    d. **How to check for Opera:** Click the menu drop down arrow and select "Help" menu from the available menu list. Select "About Opera".
4. **Internet Connection:** High-speed cable or DSL internet connection.
5. **Screen Resolution:** 1024x768
    a. **How to check on a PC:** Right-click on your desktop, and select "Properties", and then click on the "Settings" tab. Current screen resolution will be displayed, and can be changed there.
    b. **How to check on a Mac:** From "System Preferences" choose "Displays". Current screen resolution will be displayed, and can be changed there.

3. Additional Configurations

In order to successfully access the MIIS, users need to make sure that the following configurations are checked:
1. **JavaScript.** JavaScript needs to be enabled in the web browser. Below are links that explain how to do this for each browser version.
    a. For Internet Explorer: http://support.microsoft.com/gp/howtoscript
    b. For Mozilla Firefox: http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/Javascript
    c. For Apple Safari: http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?path=Safari/3.0/en/9279.html
    d. For Opera: http://www.opera.com/docs/browserjs/

2. **Web Browser Tabs.** It is recommended that tabs are enabled in the web browser for consistent user experience. Below are links that explain how to do this for each browser version.
   a. For IE: http://browsers.about.com/od/internetexplorertutorials/ss/ie7tabbed.htm
   b. For Mozilla Firefox: http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/Tabbed%20browsing
   c. For Apple Safari: http://browsers.about.com/od/safar1/ss/safaritabs.htm
   d. For Opera: By default, new tabs open within a single Opera application window.
3. **Adobe PDF Reader.** In order to view and print a Certificate of Immunization, users need to have Adobe PDF Reader installed on their computers. It is a free tool available for download at http://www.adobe.com

4. User Accounts

The MIIS utilizes a single sign on process through a state run portal called the Virtual Gateway (VG). After completing MIIS and VG registration, a user account is created for each user of the MIIS. This process will be described and explained during the MIIS registration and training process.

5. URL

If you meet the minimum technical requirements described above and have obtained a user account, you may click on the following link to access the MIIS: www.mass.gov/vg

Terms and Definitions

Single sign on: A property of access control of multiple, related, but independent software systems. With this property a user logs in once and gains access to all systems without being prompted to log in again at each of them.

Standards compliant: A term often used in describing websites and user agents' (often web browsers) relative compliance with web standards proposed by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C);

URL: Address for a web page on the World Wide Web.

User: One who employs the end services provided by a telecommunication system. For example, an end-user of a computer system is someone who operates the computer, as opposed to the developer of the system who creates new functions for end-users.

User Interface: The system by which people (users) interact with a machine. The user interface includes hardware (physical) and software (logical) components.

Virtual Gateway: An application hosting platform used by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services, which hosts the MIIS.

Web based: A **web application** is an application that is accessed over a network such as the Internet or an intranet. The ability to update and maintain web applications without distributing and installing software on potentially thousands of client computers is a key reason for their popularity, as is the inherent support for cross-platform compatibility

Web Browser/Internet Browser: A software application for retrieving, presenting, and traversing information resources on the World Wide Web.